



Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety

Roy E. Barnes
Governor

Tim Burgess
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 30, 2001

FOR INFORMATION: Susan Sports
Public Information Officer
(678) 413-8657

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY ANNOUNCES ON-LINE TAG RENEWALS

Department of Motor Vehicle Safety Commissioner Tim Burgess announced today that residents of six Georgia counties will now be able to renew their motor vehicle tags on-line. Beginning December 1st, citizens in Bibb, Chatham, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Whitfield counties have the option of renewing their vehicle registration via the DMVS Internet website: www.dmv.ga.gov.

“Under Governor Roy Barnes’ direction, the DMVS is aggressively pursuing the use of cutting edge technology to better serve our customers. We are delighted to initiate this Internet Pilot Project for a no-hassle, fast and easy way to renew vehicle registrations over the Internet,” said Burgess. Governor Barnes has established the vision that all state agencies should actively embrace the concept of e-government. The Board of Directors of the DMVS has also endorsed this philosophy.

The DMVS assembled a cross section of Georgia counties who analyzed and tested the functional requirements of the system and agreed to participate in the inaugural Pilot Project. The Tax Commissioners participating in the Internet Pilot Project are: Mr. James R. Davis, Bibb County; Dr. Arthur E. Ferdinand, Fulton County; Ms. Ann Jones Guider, Douglas County; Mr. Daniel T. Powers, Chatham County; Mr. Danny Sane, Whitfield County; Ms. Katherine Sherrington, Gwinnett County.

“These Tax Commissioners should be commended for taking the initiative to pave the way for their residents to have this added drivers’ services benefit. There is a great deal of

problem solving and negotiation involved in getting an inaugural project like this off the ground. These Commissioners have recognized that the Internet gives citizens access to their government,” Burgess said. The DMVS expects additional counties to be added in the months ahead.

Vehicle Registration Renewal Notices or prebills for the participating counties’ residents with January birthdays will be in the mail by December 1st. At the bottom of that notice is a new message alerting the recipient of the on-line renewal option and providing a twelve-digit Internet Renewal Identification (RIN) number. A RIN number is needed for Internet renewal to ensure integrity and security. The customer can then go to the web site and follow the instructions to renew vehicle registrations online. MasterCard and Visa credit cards are the only method of payment initially -- with a six-dollar service charge per transaction. However, an electronic checks system will be initiated in January. After a successful transaction that is expected to take less than five minutes, the new registration and decal will be mailed to the customer within five business days.

Since its creation by the Georgia General Assembly during the 2000 legislative session, a priority of the DMVS has been to make departmental services more convenient and accessible to citizens while preserving the privacy of personal information. The ability to renew vehicle tags on the Internet does just that. It allows instant renewal and is available seven days a week around the clock. It is a quick, secure and convenient way to renew vehicle registrations.

“This is a major step for the DMVS, the six initial participating counties and all the ones that follow. It fulfills our joint mission to make motor vehicle services more convenient for our customers. This is an easy way for many Georgians to take care of a major part of their motor vehicle business any time of the day or night, from the comfort of their home or office,” Burgess added.

The DMVS marked its emergence into e-government by offering an on-line Automobile Dealer Inquiry service in October. Plans are underway for mail-in and Internet drivers’ license renewals that should be implemented by Summer 2002.

For more information, visit the DMVS website at www.dmv.ga.gov.